

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12  
NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 /062 W  
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R 021537Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
TO USMISSION USNATO  
COMSIXTHFLT  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCAREUR HEIDELBERG GE/PAO  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO USICA WASHDC  
SECSTATE WASHDC 6627  
SECDEF WASHDC  
COMFAIRMED  
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON/PAO

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E.O.: 11652: N/A  
TAGS: NATO, DA  
SUBJ: NATO STUDYTOUR FOR DANISH REGIONAL AND FOREIGN POLICY  
EDITORS

1. SUMMARY: POST'S SECOND NATO TOUR, ARRANGED FOR DANISH EDITORS CONCERNED WITH FOREIGN POLICY AND PLANNED AS CURTAIN RAISER FOR NEWSPAPER COVERAGE OF NATO SUMMIT, PRODUCED IMMEDIATE RESULTS, (E.G., IN ONE PAPER, A FIVE-PART SERIES ON NATO AND EUROPEAN SECURITY,) AS WELL AS PROVIDING INVALUABLE EDUCATION FOR EDITORS. ALL MEMBERS OF STUDY GROUP FELT TRIP WAS REMARKABLY EFFECTIVE AND WORTHWHILE, FROM INITIAL BRIEFINGS AT SHAPE AND NATO BY SACEUR HAIG, MILITARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GEN. GUNDERSON AND OTHERS THROUGH EQUALLY FIRST-RATE BRIEFINGS IN NAPLES BY AFSOUTH'S ADMIRAL SHEAR AND NAVSOUTH'S ADMIRAL BALDINI, FOLLOWED BY DRAM-

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ATIC OVERNIGHT VISIT ON USS FORRESTAL GUIDED BY REAR ADMIRAL ROBERT SCHULTZ. SECOND DRAMATIC HIGHPOINT WAS DAY-LONG HELICOPTER BORDER TOUR WITH APPROPRIATE BRIEFINGS IN FULDA BORDER AREA OF GERMANY. STUDY TOUR WAS ROUNDED OUT BY VISIT TO AIR ARM IN RAMSTEIN WHERE EDITORS MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVEN COUNTRIES IN WIDERANGING DISCUSSION OF AIR DEFENSE PROBLEMS.

2. ALL THE DANES WORKED HARD AND ABSORBED ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF INFORMATION, SPURRED BY THEIR OWN TOUGH QUESTIONING. CONCLUSION WAS THAT STUDY TOUR IS PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE IN INFORMING THE DANISH MEDIA, THAT FORMAT APPEALS TO THEM AND MATERIAL HAS IMMEDIATE MULTIPLIER EFFECT IN DENMARK WHERE MOST OF THE READING PUBLIC BACKS NATO DOWN TO THE BOTTOM LINE - AND THEN BALKS AT DEFENSE COSTS ON THAT BOTTOM LINE. END SUMMARY.

3. POST SELECTED EDITORS FROM MOST IMPORTANT REGIONAL PAPERS FOR THIS TOUR, ADDING PARLIAMENTARY AND MILITARY CORRESPONDENT IN COPENHAGEN FOR DANISH RADIO WHEN BORNHOLM EDITOR UNABLE KEEP COMMITMENT. CHOICE WAS FORTUITOUS BECAUSE DR'S CORRESPONDENT WAS KNOWLEDGABLE AND PROVOCATIVE SPARKPLUG IN DISCUSSIONS THROUGHOUT TOUR AND SENT COMMENTARIES BACK AS HE TRAVELLED. EVERY MEMBER OF TOUR GROUP WAS SOLID, REPUTABLE, RELIABLE JOURNALIST WHO WORKED HARD THROUGHOUT THE TRIP. POST IS SATISFIED THAT EACH ONE EXTRACTED MAXIMUM FROM EXCELLENT BRIEFINGS AND PROGRAM SET UP BY HOSTS ALONG THE WAY. EDITORS REPRESENTED, BESIDES DR, JYLLANDS-POSTEN, AALBORG STIFTSTIDENDE, VESTKYSTEN AND FYENS STIFTSTIDENDE, ALL MAJOR PROVINCIAL DAILIES.

4. VISIT TO NATO AND SHAPE:

DESPITE FACT THAT WE WERE THERE ON WORKING DAY SANDWICHED IN BETWEEN TWO SPRING HOLIDAYS, USICA NATO ARRANGED SOLID SCHEDULE, BEGINNING WITH SACEUR AT SHAPE AND PROCEEDING THROUGH BRIEFINGS UNCLASSIFIED

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BY MILITARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GEN. ZEINER-GUNDERSON, DANES' OWN NATO INFORMATION DIRECTOR AND FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER ORLA MØLLER WHO ALSO TENDED LUNCHEON, POLITICAL OFFICER KIM PENDLETON AND DANES-ONLY MEETING WITH THEIR OWN NATO AMBASSADOR. GENERAL HAIG GAVE TOUR D'HORIZON, DISCUSSED SOVIET ARMS BUILDUP, NEED FOR QUICK RESPONSE, DANGER TO NATO FLANKS, NEED FOR STANDARDIZATION OF WEAPONS EAND INTEROPERABILITY IN TRAINING PROCEDURES, DISPARITY OF NATO FORCES VIS A VIS WARSAW PACT. GENERAL ZEINER-GUNDERSON, MØLLER AND PENDLETON REITERATED AND ENLARGED ON THEMES, FIRST TWO WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE NORTHERN FLANK AND DENMARK, PENDLETON GIVING MORE EMPHASIS TO POLITICAL ASPECTS. GROUP THEN WENT TO LISTEN TO THEIR OWN AMBASSADOR, CAME AWAY MIGHTILY IMPRESSED WITH HIS ACUTE ANALYSIS OF DEFENSE IMPERATIVES.

5. AFSOUT, NAVSOUTH AND SIXTH FLEET:

NAPLES SEGMENT INCLUDED THOUGHTFUL BRIEFING BY ITALIAN ADMIRAL BALDINI, CHIEF OF NAVSOUTH, ON RUSSIAN NAVAL THREAT, NEED FOR LIFTING OF TURKISH EMBARGO, QUALITY OF COOPERATION AMONG ALLIES, ROLE OF SPAIN IN MEDITERRANEAN EQUATION. BALDINI BRIFING WAS PRECEDED BY EXCELLENT TECHNICAL BRIEFING ON SOVIET SEAPOWER, KINDS AND FUNCTIONS OF SOVIET NAVAL SHIPPING, SUBMARINES, MERCANTILE

SHIPPING. THIS VERY THOROUGH AND COMPLETELY ABSORBING SESSION WAS GIVEN BY A YOUNG LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WHOSE NAME NONE OF GROUP REGISTERED BUT WHOSE INFORMATION WAS INVALUABLE TO A REASONABLE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CARRIER SEGMENT. AFSOUTH BRIEFING NEXT MORNING WAS DAZZLING TOUR DE FORCE BY ADMIRAL HAROLD SHEAR WHO MIGHTILY IMPRESSED HIS INTERLOCUTORS WITH HIS TAUT ANALYSIS OF AFSOUTH'S RESPONSIBILITIES, CHALLENGES AND DILEMMAS, POLITICAL AND MILITARY, ROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN AND IN AN OVERALL CONTEXT.

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR TEXT (PARA NINE IMI NINE)

6. AIRCRAFT CARRIER WAS AS DRAMATIC AS ADVERTISED. REAR ADMIRAL ROBERT SCHOULTZ WAS CHARMING, MAGNETIC HOST WHOSE YOUTHFUL VIGOUR DELIGHTED DANES. CAPTAIN PETER BOOTH'S THOUGHTFUL HOSPITALITY WAS PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED AFTER HOURS SPENT WATCHING TRAINING CATAPULT TAKEOFFS AND ARRESTED LANDINGS (INCLUDING OUR OWN) AS WELL AS A MIDNIGHT CARRIER REFUELING AT SEA. TOUR OF SHIP INCLUDED CAREFUL BRIEFINGS BY EACH OF SQUADRONS ABOARD IN THEIR READY ROOMS AND TOUR OF FLIGHT DECK.

7. VISIT TO FULDA AND BORDER:

FULDA VISIT WAS BEAUTIFULLY ORGANIZED AND ANOTHER DRAMATIC HIGH-LIGHT. AFTER EXCELLENT BRIEFINGS BY GENERAL BALLANTYNE, COL.  
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WHITNEY, COL. SAINT AND HIS BORDER MINE EXPERT, GROUP TOOK OFF BY HELICOPTER FOR BORDER TOUR WHICH ADDED SENSE OF IMMEDIACY TO SOMBER CRUELTY INHERENT IN EAST GERMANY'S MINED-FENCES, PARTICULARLY AS SEEN SILHOUETTED AGAINST PEACEFUL PROSPEROUS LANDSCAPE. GROUP FOUND THIS PERCEPTION OF WALL-MENTALITY IN PEACEFUL FIELDS PARTICULARLY AFFECTING. COMMAND POST BRIEFING BY LT COL CONRAD AND TRAINING EXERCISES BY WELL-TURNED TROOPS WERE EQUALLY DRAMATIC, GIVEN PRESENCE OF ENEMY A FEW HUNDRED YARDS OVER THE HILL.

#### 8. VISIT TO RAMSTEIN AIR BASE:

HAVING SEEN THE ARMY AND THE NAVY IN ACTION, GROUP WOUND UP TIGHTLY-SCHEDULED STUDY TOUR WITH A FAST VISIT TO THE AIR FORCE SECTOR. AAFCE BRIEFINGS WERE FOLLOWED BY A STIMULATING DISCUSSION WITH SEVEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN AAFCE IN WHICH DANES PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN AWACS INFORMATION. DISCUSSION WENT ON THROUGH LUNCH. GROUP THEN TOURED 86 TFW FACILITIES, CLAMBERED OVER AIRCRAFT AND INSPECTED THE AWESOME WEAPONRY AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE MORNING BRIEFINGS.

#### 9. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

STUDY TOUR WAS ON TARGET AS CURTAIN RAISER TO THE MAY 30-31 NATO SUMMIT, GIVING DANISH EDITORS THE KNOWLEDGE, THE INTEREST AND THE WILL TO EXPLORE IN PRINT THE PROBLEM OF WARSAW PACT ARMS BUILDUP AND WHAT IT MEANS IN TERMS OF THE DEFENSE OF EUROPE. THE BRIEFINGS WERE ALL FIRST-RATE AND SOME WERE OUTSTANDING. THE DANISH JOURNALISTS PARTICIPATING LEARNED ABOUT AWACS IN A REALISTIC CONTEXT JUST BEFORE AWACS WAS ENTERED INTO THE DEFENSE DEBATE IN DENMARK, A PARTICULARLY USEFUL OCCURRENCE. TOUR WAS WELL-ORGANIZED, WITH FOCUS FIRST ON OVERALL PICTURE, THEN ON FLANKS AND ON ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE RESPONSIBILITIES AND CAPABILITIES TO DEFEND AGAINST ATTACK. JOURNALISTS WERE KNOWLEDGABLE, EXPERIENCED INTERVIEWERS LOOKING FOR ANSWERS SO NO TIME WAS LOST IN WHEEL SPINNING. GROUP WAS COMPATIBLE, INTERESTED AND UNFLAGGING, AND HOSTS AND ESCORTS WERE FORTHCOMING, PERCEPTIVE AND GENEROUS IN TIME AND COMMENTARY. THESE DANISH PROFESSIONALS WERE AS IMPRESSED WITH THE QUALITY, OPENNESS AND DEDICATION OF THE AMERICANS THEY MET AS THEY WERE BY THE FACTS AND FIGURES. THE OBVIOUS AND CANDID

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COOPERATION BETWEEN NATIONALITIES IN THE VARIOUS COMMANDS WAS  
EQUALLY IMPRESSIVE.

10. IN SUM, TOUR WAS A SOLID SUCCESS, REINFORCING OUR CONVICTION  
THAT JOURNALISTS ARE PRIME CANDIDATES FOR SUCH HAND-TAILORED,  
EXPENSIVE STUDY TOURS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014